

The San Diego Union

FINAL EDITION

FILM

'Chimpanzees' a mesmerizing trip into Goodall's world

"Jane Goodall's Wild Chimpanzees," an IMAX film at the Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, is a heartfelt and visually stunning new film in which Jane Goodall upstages the subjects of her research.

Goodall was the first scientist to study chimpanzees in the wild, and she has been linked with them in the public's mind and eye for almost four decades. From archival footage of the young proto-scientist just finding her way at Tanzania's Gombe Stream National Park in 1960 to following the serene yet still fiercely dedicated woman of today, the film draws us into Goodall's world. The IMAX format is ideal for the forest environment; the film imparts visceral sense of a third dimension, and an all-but-tactile awareness of the presence of our almost-kissin' cousins.

Like Goodall herself, the film gets sentimental about the chimps, but stops well short of mawkishness. There's enough science to make it count as educational, and enough beauty to make it unforgettable.

— Arthur Salm

"Jane Goodall's Wild Chimpanzees"

1/2 (out of 4)

Unrated; 42 min.